



THE RICOCHET

28900 E. Argo Rd. Grain Valley, MO 64029 (816)-229-4448

<http://www.mdc.state.mo.us/areas/ranges/lakecity>



Versatile Gun Dogs

With summer upon us a lot of bird dog owners will be replacing or adding to their stable of bird dogs.

The biggest way to start a full fledged fight is to ask a group of hunters which is the best dog to get.

The North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NAVHDA), rates the German Shorthair Pointer the best "all purpose dog" of the nineteen breeds tested. The next most versatile dog was the German Wirehair Pointer.

As far as popularity with hunters the Brittany equals the Shorthair by on-foot bird hunters.

How Accurate is Accurate?

When did shooters become so obsessed with accuracy? It seems that every hunting or shooting magazine you pick-up is obsessed with dime size accuracy. Is it really something the average hunter should be concerned with? The answer is no. The average hunter does not need a firearm that will place five shots in a single hole at 100 yards to be successful in the field.

Most avid shooters will want to argue this point. It should be obvious I am talking about hunters who hunt deer, antelope, elk and moose. Since deer hunting is synonymous with big game hunting in Missouri, it is deer hunting accuracy I will focus on.

First, let's define a couple of things, wanted accuracy and needed accuracy. Wanted accuracy is dime size or

smaller holes at 100 yards. This is the accuracy we as target and varmint shooters expect and pay good money for. Needed accuracy is what you get from firearm manufacturers today, with very few exceptions. Though pin point accuracy is always desired, it is not always possible or needed. If a rifle can hold three shots 2 1/2 inches at 100 yards, then it can harvest a deer with no problem. This is known to some as field accuracy. Let's look at the animal vital area size. A deer's vital area is roughly 16 to 18 inches in diameter, depending on the size of the deer. For the sake of discussion, let's say the average deer has the smaller 16 inch vital area or kill zone. A rifle that shoots 2 _ inches at 100 yards can harvest the average deer out to 300 yards. That is if the shooter does his part and can hold steady on target at that range. This is a long shot here in Missouri, and involves a lot of range time shooting on the part of the shooter. That is another topic for discussion in another Ricochet.

Accuracy is important, there is no doubt, but do you really need pin point accuracy? I leave that up to you!

Safety Corner

Federal Cartridges Corporation is recalling several lots of .45 caliber Long Colt semi-wad cutters hollow point ammunition. The production number is C45LCA in the Classic 20 round box.

Rounds from the following lot numbers may exhibit excessive chamber pressures. Use of this product may result in firearm damage and/or personal

injury. The following lot numbers should not be used: 8J191, 8J192, 8J193, 8J194, 8J195, 8J196, 8J197, 8J198, and 8J199. The lot number can be found on either the back of the carton or on the inside of the end flap (hand stamped). If you possess ammunition from any of these lot numbers, or have questions contact Federal Cartridge at 800-831-0850.

The Cost of Hunting

Summer is once again here and soon it will be time to plan your next hunting adventure. Before deciding to go on an exciting hunt, you may want to take a few things into consideration. First, you must decide which species of animal you may want to pursue. That sounds obvious, but that is a big decision based on the cost of the hunt alone. For example, a pronghorn bow hunt on average will cost you about \$1,750 dollars. On the other end of the spectrum, a hunt for polar bear could cost you in excess of \$23,000 dollars!!

Secondly, you must take into account all costs associated with a hunt. Yes, there are hidden charges that go along with a hunt. For example, you must take into consideration the licenses, tags, permits, accommodations, transportation, and even the cost of getting your meat and trophy back to your home. After you've done some research and figured out what you want to hunt, it's time to find a guide or outfitter. Remember, just like most things in life you get what you pay for. A good outfitter will go a long way to get you an animal. Make sure you research all outfitters in the area you would like to go hunting. Although you may pay a lot of money to hunt with an outfitter, your money does NOT GUARANTEE YOU SUCCESS! It is still hunting no matter which way you choose we wish you luck in all your future hunting endeavors!

Preference Points in other States

One of our shooters was discussing with another shooter how long it took him to get his hunting license in Colorado for the unit he wanted to hunt. His statement to the shooter he was talking with was, "It took me three years to get enough preference points to be drawn."

The point system that several of the Western States use was confusing to the shooter he was talking with.

The system works like this: The States Game Management Division assigns points to limited quota game units. This allows hunters who choose these units to accumulate points and gain a mathematical advantage for waiting to hunt that unit. For example, if you want to hunt a limited quota unit that allows for 50 permits and 150 people applied, the 100 would get maybe 2 points for not getting chosen. It may take 4 points to be able to be chosen for this unit. It would therefore, take you two years before you were eligible to be selected to hunt that unit.

I personally know of hunters who have waited six years to hunt Bighorn Sheep through the point system. This is one system where patience is a virtue.

Range Hours

**Range hours are Noon-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday – Sunday**

Monday-Tuesday we are still available for group use by prior arrangements on a first come first serve basis. There is currently about a two week advance notice needed to get on the schedule. Shooting opportunities are limited in this area and we fill up quickly. Call the Range at (816)229-4448 to arrange for your group times.

Range Staff

Supervisor	David Wyatt
Range Officer	Steven Elliott
Range Assistant	Chantz Brown
Weekend Hourly	Mark Jamison

Calendar of Events

June 16	Urban Critter Control
June 17	Basic Archery
June 19	Ladies Firearm Safety
June 20	Dad's Shoot Free
June 22	Pistol Reloading Basics
July	Ladies Shoot Free Every Thursday Sessions
July 10	Hunter Education
July 14	Fishing for Cats I
July 16	Fishing for Cats II James A. Reed
July 21	50+ Rifle Class
July 23	Teen and .22's
August 7	Bow Hunter Ed
August 11	Firearm Refinish I
August 14	Hunter Education
August 17	Advanced Teen & .22
August 21	Ladies Firearm Safety
August 24	Butterfly Program
August 25	Firearm Refinish II

Parma Wood Range

July 1	Lewis & Clark Day
July 7	.22 Pistol Marksmanship
July 10	Hunter Education
July 10	Ladies Firearm Safety
July 13	Outdoor Movie Day
July 19	Snake Identification
July 21	.22 Pistol Shooting
July 24	Air Rifle for Kids
July(month)	Kids Shoots Free Days
August 7	Intro. to In-lines
August 9	Women in the Outdoors -Rifle
August 10	Outdoor Movie Day
August 10	Women in the Outdoors -Archery
August 14	Ladies Firearms Safety
August 16	Intro. to Clay Targets
August 17	.22 Rifle Marksmanship
August 18	Birdwatching
August 20	Carp Fishing
August 24	Beginning Archery
August 25	Wild Game Cooking
August 28	Dove Shooting Clinic
August 30	Reloading-Part I
September 2	Reloading-Part II